

Reference No. 6.27

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, DECEMBER 1972 (PRELIMINARY)**

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of December 1972 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly mimeograph *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

3. Stoppages of work at different points of time and at different establishments due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry group in a State or Territory is counted once only in the number of disputes — in the industry group that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industry groups. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

4. For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report No. 56, 1971* (Reference No. 6.7).

**TABLE 1. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA**

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost (a) ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)		
1968	..	1,713	..	720.3	1,079.5	12,115.2
1969	..	2,014	..	1,285.2	1,958.0	22,985.7
1970	..	2,738	..	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3
1971	..	2,404	..	1,326.5	3,068.6	45,241.3
1972 (b)	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	32,074.4
1971 —						
December	101	106	49.4	53.8	191.8	2,694.3
1972 —						
January	125	125	38.3	38.3	53.8	773.7
February	177	182	67.2	70.7	132.3	2,062.7
March	153	167	56.6	63.4	116.9	1,881.2
April	197	202	81.7	81.8	122.2	1,733.1
May	292	315	206.4	213.2	266.6	4,189.3
June	219	241	75.8	79.9	167.9	2,616.2
July	229	236	75.4	77.6	244.5	4,111.0
August	195	233	220.7	235.3	356.0	5,651.9
September	185	199	112.1	214.6	188.9	3,040.5
October (b)	207	213	77.5	80.7	137.2	2,303.5
November (b)	210	230	77.8	83.7	170.8	2,777.6
December (b)	109	121	24.2	29.0	53.2	933.7

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 3 above. (b) Subject to revision.



**TABLE 2. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)**

Period	Mining and quarrying		Manufacturing		Building and construction	Transport		Other industry groups	All industry groups
	Coal mining	Other	Engineering, etc. (b)	Other		Stevedoring	Other		
1968	61.1	67.7	423.5	130.3	119.5	77.3	77.0	123.0	1,079.5
1969	76.1	76.9	643.6	320.7	276.4	136.2	283.2	144.9	1,958.0
1970	178.4	76.5	625.9	464.0	642.6	148.3	120.1	137.9	2,393.7
1971	251.6	83.2	636.7	344.8	1,208.9	73.9	268.1	201.5	3,068.6
1972 (c)	60.8	62.0	620.2	454.6	411.7	39.2	186.0	175.7	2,010.3
1971 —									
December	2.2	4.4	7.4	13.9	8.9	1.4	69.4	84.2	191.8
1972 —									
January	2.0	7.1	10.0	21.0	2.1	0.7	0.2	10.7	53.8
February	5.3	3.8	20.2	51.4	37.0	3.2	1.4	10.0	132.3
March	2.1	15.5	22.5	18.9	11.2	2.5	8.8	35.5	116.9
April	10.2	0.3	12.6	19.7	14.0	4.5	31.8	29.1	122.2
May	5.2	1.3	121.9	66.5	28.2	3.3	4.8	35.4	266.6
June	10.9	10.0	31.8	24.8	13.8	9.8	60.7	6.1	167.9
July	4.6	2.3	67.2	53.0	96.6	4.8	5.5	10.4	244.5
August	4.3	2.1	136.9	68.5	101.2	1.7	36.4	4.8	356.0
September	5.5	9.0	118.0	22.9	24.4	1.1	4.7	3.4	188.9
October (c)	4.6	5.2	33.7	33.0	43.5	3.4	2.2	11.7	137.2
November (c)	5.2	4.2	33.5	60.7	33.9	1.4	20.3	11.7	170.8
December (c)	1.1	1.2	11.9	14.3	5.6	3.0	9.3	6.9	53.2

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 3, page 1. (b) Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc. (c) Subject to revision.

**TABLE 3. — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)**

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1968	583.4	243.9	158.6	51.1	21.8	13.0	1,079.5
1969	743.8	717.2	238.6	129.0	101.4	9.9	1,958.0
1970	1,393.6	510.8	179.2	93.1	141.1	32.2	2,393.7
1971	1,887.5	689.6	271.4	111.2	69.4	20.6	3,068.6
1972 (c)	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,010.3
1971 —							
December	74.4	99.7	9.5	0.8	6.9	0.4	191.8
1972 —							
January	18.0	22.6	5.8	0.4	6.5	0.5	53.8
February	32.7	58.3	15.4	3.7	4.6	1.9	132.3
March	55.2	22.2	20.0	0.3	16.1	2.6	116.9
April	41.5	56.9	15.2	4.8	1.7	0.8	122.2
May	133.7	78.2	24.9	8.8	13.2	2.5	266.6
June	54.9	60.1	26.9	5.2	18.5	1.6	167.9
July	104.7	85.3	33.5	10.0	8.8	0.2	244.5
August	187.3	106.2	32.0	11.5	12.2	4.1	356.0
September	98.4	52.2	21.0	5.0	9.1	0.3	188.9
October (c)	58.7	20.2	46.1	5.8	0.4	2.3	137.2
November (c)	59.2	58.3	44.8	2.7	1.2	1.4	170.8
December (c)	22.5	17.9	6.4	2.7	2.3	1.1	53.2

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 3, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Subject to revision.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.